

17 April 2019

Cr Jamie Hyams Mayor Glen Eira City Council Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads Caulfield, Victoria 3161

Dear Cr Hyams

# 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick

Thank you for your letter of 22 March 2019.

The ABC Board has resolved for the Gordon Street property to be placed on the market for sale.

The Acting Managing Director is currently in market pursuing sale opportunities.

I confirm that the ABC has no plans to donate a property funded by the taxpayers of Australia to Glen Eira City Council.

Yours sincerely

Ita Buttrose

Chair

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

GLEN EIRA

BRIGHTON EAST CARNEGIE

BENTLEIGH BENTLEIGH EAST

CAULFIELD

FISTERNIMICK

GARDENVALE

GLEN HUNTLY MCKINNON MURRUMBEENA

ORMOND ST KILDA EAST

GLEN EIRA

22 March 2019

Ms Ita Buttrose Chair Australian Broadcasting Commission GPO Box 9994 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Buttrose

# FORMER ABC TV STUDIOS - 8 GORDON STREET, ELSTERNWICK

Firstly, congratulations on your appointment as Chair of the ABC. I acknowledge that you will have many pressing matters to attend to in your first few months in office. However, I urge you to give timely consideration to keeping the ABC TV Studios at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick in the public's hands. The imminent sale of the property could put it at risk of demolition - a tragic loss of a rich part of our nation's cultural history.

A significant grassroots campaign to save the site from potential demolition was led by Glen Eira Councillors and high-profile television personalities including Molly Meldrum and Brian Nankervis in 2018. The main studio, affectionately known as the 'Dream Factory', is the earliest ABC television studio in Australia and an iconic part of Australia's history. Commencing with the broadcasting of the Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956, the studio had far-reaching effects on Australian culture, ideas, identity and society until 2017.

An independent heritage review of the public land and buildings, a copy of which is enclosed, emphatically confirmed the site to be of national, state and local cultural heritage significance. Council is currently undertaking a Planning Scheme Amendment process to introduce local heritage controls over the site and has also nominated 8 Gordon Street for both State and National Heritage Registers.

While there could be many models considered for the future management of the site, ideally Council would assume committee of management responsibilities to develop the car parking area as public open space, use the building as an arts and culture space and facilitate the development of the remainder of the site for much needed social housing.

I was heartened to read your published commentary regarding 'giving the ABC back to the people'. What more symbolic way to follow through on that commitment than by saving this iconic building from demolition and making this significant gift to the people of Glen Eira and the nation.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal with you in more detail at your convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at any time.

Yours sincerely

CR JAMIE HYAMS

MAYOR

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL
CORNER GLEN EIRA AND HAWTHORN ROADS, CAULFIELD, VIC
PO BOX 42, CAULFIELD SOUTH 3162

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Heritage Overlay number:

HO156

Place Name:

Former ABC TV Gordon Street Studios

Other Names:

ABC TV Ripponlea Studios

Address:

8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick

Place Type:

Government/Institutional

Designer/architect:

Commonwealth Public Works Department

Construction dates:
Architectural style:

1956-1965 International Style

Level of Significance:

LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL

Recommendation:

Heritage Overlay schedule Victorian Heritage Register Commonwealth Heritage List

# Photos:



Exterior of Gordon Street studios from carpark. Photo by heritage ALLIANCE, 2018

HERITAGE CITATION CITY OF GLEN EIRA

huge circular vegetable garden was subdivided for suburban housing, extending Gordon Street from Bent Street to Glen Eira Road. Then in April 1956, Charles Moses, manager of the ABC and Timothy Jones, husband of Louisa Jones, came to an agreement for the ABC to purchase 2.75 acres of the estate and also sought the first right of refusal to purchase additional land from the estate for a television studio.

Stage 1 of the ABC studios was constructed in 1956 in the triangle of paddocks between the Rippon Lea lake, the railway line and adjacent to the Elsternwick police station and court house. In 1958, Stage 2 of the facility opened on 21 May. In 1959, the ABC successfully negotiated to buy another two acres of Rippon Lea but the purchase was not completed because of objections by Caulfield City Council. Negotiations with Mrs Jones were later resumed but she rescinded the agreement to sell more land on the basis that the agreement was made by her late husband, not her.

In 1963, the government compulsorily acquired 4.1 acres of the estate to extend the ABC facility. 10,000 people protested the acquisition in the grounds of Rippon Lea. Louisa Jones took her battle all the way to the High Court, who denied the acquisition on a technical detail. In 1964 the ABC reapplied for the acquisition and again it went all the way to the High Court, who upheld the right of the Commonwealth to acquire the land, Louisa Jones still did not give up, and in 1966 she issued a writ against the Commonwealth for 355,000 pounds.1

Having lost two court cases, she then bequeathed the property to the fledgling National Trust of Australia (Vic) to successfully preserve the property for the people of Victoria. She received this news shortly before she died in 1972, aged seventy-eight. As Henry Bolte, Victorian Premier of the time remarked, 'Few people have worked so hard to give so much away.'2

Television began in Australia just in time for the Melbourne Olympics of 1956. A 1953 Federal Royal Commission Inquiry into Television, had recommended that it be introduced gradually under government supervision, with an ABC station and two commercial channels in both Sydney and Melbourne. Throughout 1956, international experts were flown into Melbourne to prepare staff, train 300 technicians and provide expertise on how to design studios and production facilities for television.

Test transmissions took place in Melbourne for HSV7 and GTV9 in the months leading up to the Olympic Games and, along with ABV2, the stations were on air by the time the Olympics began in November. All three stations televised the Olympics, using outside broadcast vans linked by radio to their main studios and a 16mm film of daily events sent to Sydney each evening for television broadcast.3

The first transmission of Channel ABV2 in Melbourne was on November 17, 1956. The opening programmes were presented from a converted radio studio at Broadcast House, using the Outside Broadcast unit as a production booth. Programmes were presented from the small studio at Gordon Street with the master control equipment being housed in the Garage building of Stage 1.

It was May 1958 before ABV2 formally opened the studio space at Gordon Street. An undated memo from ABV2 staff collected on an ABV2 archive website provides some details about the building. "The requirements for the studio building were prepared by officers of the Australian Broadcasting Commission based on the latest experience of television authorities overseas. The plans were prepared and the building construction supervised by the Commonwealth Department of Works. The building contractors are Clements Langford Ptv Ltd."4

The Gordon Street studios continued to house ABC TV production in Melbourne until 2017 — making programs such as Bellbird, Adventure Island, Countdown, Power Without Glory, The Saturday Show, Australia - You're

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Canberra Times, ACT, Thursday 4 February 1965, p.13

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Louisa Jones, Culture Victoria website https://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/built-environment/rippon-lea-estate/louisa-jones/

<sup>3</sup> Parliament of Victoria website, 1956 Olympics; www.parliament.vic.gov.au/component/jdownloads/downloads/36-researchpapers/13610-2016-3-olympics-hn

<sup>4</sup> Office memo, ABC former staff online archive at http://www.abv2.net.au/office.php

HERITAGE CITATION CITY OF GLEN EIRA

Other series such as *Bellbird* (1967-1977) and *Sea Change* (1998-2000) had a lasting impact on a generation of Australians and are remembered as marking a particular time in Australian family life and home-based entertainment. Seachange is noted in the Australian National Dictionary as a noun directly related to the ABC TV series, *Sea Change* and follows up with seachange (verb) as a move from city to coastal living. *Sea Change* was and is still the only program produced by the ABC to win a Gold Logie for Most Popular Australian Program. (2000 and 2001) The ABC produced and created numerous telemovies, current affairs and natural history programs at Gordon Street, and two Logie Awards for Most Popular Entertainment Program attests to the popularity of *Kath and Kim* and *Spicks and Specks*, produced and created at Gordon Street.

# Statement of Significance:

# What is significant?

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the National, State and Local level as a place associated with public broadcasting by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation since 1956. It is a rare, surviving twentieth century television studio and the earliest ABC television studio left in Australia. The site and its fabric reflects technological developments in television from the nascent technology of 16mm film production to telecine, videotape, colour broadcasting and then digital broadcasting, from 1956 until 2017. The studios are associated with a medium which had far-reaching effects on Australian culture, ideas, identity and society from 1956 until 2017.

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the National, State and Local level as a place associated with influential television programming over a broad range of subjects including natural history, drama, comedy, news and current affairs, but particularly for culturally influential drama productions such as *Bellbird* and *Sea Change* and live-audience music productions such as *Countdown*, which greatly influenced an entire generation of Australian youth in the 1970s and 1980s.

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the State and Local level as the site of the first ABC television broadcast in Victoria, commencing with the broadcasting of the Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956. The site was one of the first purpose-built television studios in Victoria and is one of only two extant, twentieth century television studios in Victoria.

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the Local level as a place associated with *Rippon Lea* and Louisa Jones, the last owner of the estate, who challenged the compulsory acquisition of the gardens by the ABC in the 1960s. Her bequest of the estate to the National Trust of Australia contributed to the development of a nascent heritage conservation and advocacy movement, and is associated with the beginnings of the National Trust in Victoria.

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the Local level as one of the few government/institutional buildings with an aesthetic presence, and is a rare, early example of a Post-War International style building featuring exterior curtain walling in the City of Glen Eira.

The ABC TV Gordon Street studios are of cultural significance at the National, State and Local level as a place with significance to those who worked in the building between 1956 and 2017. This includes both ABC staff as well as industry professionals who worked in the building on different productions. The site is also significant for its association with the development of a nascent entertainment and broadcasting industry, which went on to develop Australian talent in music, film, video, journalism, acting, direction, design and production and has directly contributed to the development and dissemination of a distinctive Australian culture through the medium of film and television.

## How is it significant?

The ABC TV studios located at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick are significant at National, State and Local levels for historical, architectural, cultural, social and technological reasons.

#### Why is it significant?

Criterion A: Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).

HERITAGE CITATION CITY OF GLEN EIRA

The Commonwealth Offices (1956), now demolished and the Batman Telephone Exchange (1956-7), still extant, at 376 Flinders Lane were both designed by the Commonwealth Public Works Department. The two buildings plus the Gordon Street facility demonstrate a particular design intent by the Commonwealth architects and an experimentation with a new style, new materials, such as spandrel glass curtain walling and a willingness to apply this new design to different functions.

A comparison between Gordon Street and other television facilities around Australia highlight a number of functional and design similarities, most particularly with ABN 2 studios at Gore Hill which was contemporaneous, and similar in the functional layout of spaces in particular. Both commercial and public broadcasters built their television production facilities using information gleaned from overseas.

In recent decades there has been a number of commercial and ABC television studios demolished and new studios developed which cater specifically for digital broadcasting:

- TCN-9 Willoughby television studio, was the site of the first Australian TV broadcast in September 1956.
   It was sold in 2015 for apartments and the building is slated for demolition.
- ATN 7 operated out of their Epping, NSW studios from December 1956 until 2009 when the site was demolished.
- HSV-7, Melbourne constructed a television studio at Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, and broadcast the second Australian TV broadcast in November 1956. The Seven Network sold the building and it is now demolished.
- GTV-9, Melbourne began broadcasting from their studios in a converted piano factory in Richmond in January 1957. They have now been converted to apartments and the studio no longer exists.
- ATV-0 Melbourne built studios at Forest Hill in 1963 and are still extant and being used for television production.
- ABC TV Brisbane began operating out of its Toowong studios in November 1959, and the site was demolished in 2014.
- ABC TV Sydney began broadcasting from the Gore Hill studios in November 1956 and the site was demolished in 2007.
- ABC TV Perth began broadcasting from the Adelaide Street studio in 1960 and only the facade and foyer is still extant.
- ABC TV Adelaide broadcast from studios built at Collinswood in 1959, and these were closed for production in 2014, but are still extant.

Internationally, there are comparisons to be made with television studio and television facilities built in the period immediately prior to 1956. In particular, the influence which advice provided by the BBC and CBC had on the technical design of the facility and studios. In 1949 the BBC had commissioned a massive, purpose built television complex, Television Centre at White City, West London. Images of the studio spaces lend credence to the idea that there was a lot of technical exchange between the BBC and the ABC.

#### Description:

Stage 1 - 1953-1956

The first building constructed on the site was the Outside Broadcast (OB) garages and transmission building. A tall metal transmission tower (extant) was constructed at the rear of the site and later, the scenary workshop was constructed around the tower. The new building allowed the OB vans to be housed and their film to be developed, scanned and uploaded, voiced and edited for final transmission. The building also provided camera servicing and storage, a small studio (20 x 30 foot) and a master control area, which allowed for the initial broadcast of live footage for the Melbourne Olympics.

At ground level along the Gordon Street frontage, the building had a substation, electrical backup in the form of a generator atop a small three storey tower which also housed transmission equipment which relayed to the tower micro-wave dishes. The main fabric of the Stage 1 building is silica brick walls with metal windows and steel deck roof hidden by a low parapet.

Stage 2 - 1958

HERITAGE CITATION CITY OF GLEN EIRA

# Recommended extant of overlay:

To the extent indicated in red on the map below, being the entire extent of the site being bound by Gordon Street, the Sandringham railway line, 2 Gordon Street and *Rippon Lea* estate.



# Recommended schedule:

External Paint Controls	Yes	
Internal Alteration Controls	Yes	
Trees Controls	Yes (car park area)	
Fences and Outbuildings	No	
Prohibited uses may be permitted	Yes	
Incorporated Plan	Yes – Statement of Significance: former ABC TV Gordon Street Studios	
Aboriginal Heritage Place	No	

From: Kelly McDonald
To: Tyrie Starrs

Subject: RE: EPBC 2018/8307 - Proposed sale of ABC Studio at Elsternwick [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED] [ABC-

Legal.FID54172]

**Date:** Monday, 5 November 2018 1:34:50 PM

Ty, thanks very much. It's been a pleasure dealing with you.



From: Tyrie Starrs

Sent: Monday, 5 November 2018 12:09 PM

To: Kelly McDonald

Cc:

Subject: EPBC 2018/8307 - Proposed sale of ABC Studio at Elsternwick [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Kelly,

Please find attached notification of the referral decision (not a controlled action) for the proposed sale of Commonwealth Land at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick. This notice will be published on the Department's website.

Happy to discuss,

Ту

# **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

# **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph:

From: Tyrie Starrs

Sent: Monday, 5 November 2018 12:09 PM

To: Kelly McDonald

Cc:

**Subject:** EPBC 2018/8307 - Proposed sale of ABC Studio at Elsternwick [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**Attachments:** 2018-8307-Referral-Decision-Signed notification letter ABC.pdf; 2018-8307-

Referral-Decision-Signed NCA decision notice.pdf

Hi Kelly,

Please find attached notification of the referral decision (not a controlled action) for the proposed sale of Commonwealth Land at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick. This notice will be published on the Department's website.

Happy to discuss,

Ty

# **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

# **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph:

E:

EPBC Ref: 2018/8307

Kelly McDonald Team Leader ABC Legal GPO Box 9994 Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms McDonald

Decision on referral Proposed sale of ABC Studios, 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, Victoria (EPBC 2018/8307)

Thank you for submitting a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). This is to advise you of my decision about the proposed action to sell Commonwealth land at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, Victoria.

As a delegate of the Minister for the Environment, I have decided that the proposed action is not a controlled action. This means that the proposed action does not require further assessment and approval under the EPBC Act before it can proceed.

A copy of the document recording this decision is enclosed. This document will be published on the Department's website.

Please note that this decision relates only to the specific matters protected under Chapter 2 of the EPBC Act.

This decision does not affect any requirement for separate state or local government environment assessment and approvals of the proposed action.

The Department has an active audit program for proposals that have been referred under the EPBC Act. The audit program aims to ensure that proposals are implemented as planned. Please note that your project may be selected for audit by the Department at any time and all related records and documents may be subject to scrutiny. Information about the Department's compliance monitoring and auditing program is enclosed.

If you have any questions about the referral process or this decision, please contact the project manager, Tyrie Starrs, by email to tyrie.starrs@environment.gov.au, or telephone 02 6274 1507 and quote the EPBC reference number shown at the beginning of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Nathan Hanna

**Acting Assistant Secretary** 

Assessments and Governance Branch

5 November 2018

# Notification of

# **REFERRAL DECISION – not controlled action** Proposed sale of ABC Studios, 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, Victoria (EPBC 2018/8307)

This decision is made under Section 75 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

# **Proposed action**

Person proposing to take the action

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

ABN: 52 429 278 345

proposed action

To sell a property (Commonwealth land) located at 8 Gordon

Street, Elsternwick, Victoria [See EPBC Act referral

2018/8307].

Referral decision: Not a controlled action

status of proposed action

The proposed action is not a controlled action.

Person authorised to make decision

Name and position

Nathan Hanna

**Acting Assistant Secretary** 

Assessments and Governance Branch

signature

date of decision

5 November 2018



Our Ref: 1374157

4 October 2018

Cr Tony Athanasopoulos Mayor Glen Eira City Council Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads Caulfield, Victoria 3161

## By email

Dear Cr Athanasopoulos

## 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick

I refer to your letter to the Deputy Chair of the ABC dated 2 October 2018. Your letter has been passed to ABC Legal for a response.

As Council is aware, the ABC commissioned a heritage assessment of the above property from NBRS & Partners Pty Limited which determined that it does not demonstrate Commonwealth Heritage values at a level sufficient to warrant inclusion on any heritage register (local, State or Commonwealth). A peer review by Anthemion Consultancies confirmed this conclusion. Both these reports were shared with your Chief Executive Officer, Rebecca McKenzie, in April this year.

In July Rebecca very kindly shared with the ABC the heritage assessment prepared by Heritage ALLIANCE on behalf of Council. NBRS conducted a peer review of that assessment on behalf of the ABC and disagreed with the conclusions reached by Heritage ALLIANCE. The ABC also provided a copy of that report to Rebecca. In particular, NBRS noted that:

It is the Australian Broadcasting Corporation as an organisation, and the content it produces, that has significance to Australians rather than a specific building or studios used in the production of televised or radio media.

For your information, Expressions of Interest for the property close on 19 October 2018. As indicated to Rebecca, Council is welcome to submit an offer for the property as part of this process. If Council is not in a position to purchase the entire site, then the ABC is open to receiving a joint offer from Council with another party.

Yours sincerely

Connie Carnabuci General Counsel

ABC Legal

E:

To: Cc: ney; Kelly McDonald; Anna

Subject RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLA

Date: Friday, 28 September 2018 8:37 05 AM

Hi John

Just flagging the reference in media to Council requests for heritage protection and report about cultural significance. If the referral documentation doesn't address these matters directly we will likely have to seek a response from you/ABC addressing these concerns. If it is something that can be addressed fairly quickly then this can be done in parallel with the commencement of the referral process (rather than formally stopping the referral clock to seek additional information).

https://www.afr.com/real-estate/abc-puts-historic-elsternwick-studios-on-the-market-20180925-h15vef

Happy to discuss,

Ty

#### **Tyrie Starrs**

A/q Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

E:

From:

Sent: Friday, 21 September 2018 4:45 PM

To: Tyrie Starrs

Cc: Lucy Butterfield

; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks Ty. That's very helpful and all understood. We will give all that closer consideration in finalising the referral document.

Many thanks indeed for your prompt response on the draft referral.

Kind regards,

## John Briggs

# Ashurst

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AUSTRALIAN LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR 2016 Read more

From: Tyrie Starrs [

Sent: Friday, 21 September 2018

To: Briggs, John 67102

Read, Roxane 67456

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney;
Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request -

Thanks for your time today to discuss the ABC's proposed EPBC Act referral for the sale of 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick.

Following our discussion I have had the opportunity to read through your draft referral and suggest the following:

- Further detail of the impacts that building restrictions will mitigate. Describe in the referral the process by which the National Trust (Victoria) was consulted on important viewsheds and that the building restrictions address these specifically. You may note your view that any buyer will need to independently assess their responsibilities under national environmental law in relation to the National Heritage
- Further detail of mitigation measures (state and local government requirements) in relation to noise, dust and asbestos management in the likely event that the buildings on the property are removed.
- Consider the definition of the action so that you do not inadvertently contravene Section 74AA of the Act. In Section 1.11 you've stated a start date of 21 September. Under s74AA once a referral is submitted the action cannot commence until the EPBC Act process is completed. It may be that you define the action in relation to a sale contract being signed or similar, so that it is clear that the EOI process and RFT is not part of the referred action.

Happy to discuss further,

Ty

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

**Environment Standards Division** 

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601 Ph: 02 6274 1507

Sent: Friday, 21 September 2018 11:26 AM

To: Tyrie Starrs

Cc: Lucy Butterfield

; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Importance: High

Ty,

Attached for our call at 2:00pm today is the current draft referral we have developed for this matter.

I will walk you through the relevant aspects of it on our call so please don't feel any imperative to digest it beforehand.

Please note it is still a work in progress and may be changed pr or to being off cially lodged.

Talk soon.

Kind regards,

#### John Briggs

Partner

#### Ashurst

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AUSTRALIAN LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR 2016 Read more

From: Tyrie Starrs [mailto Sent: Wednesday, 19 Septe

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney; Read, Roxane 67456

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

No worries John, It's locked in. At this end it is likely to be myself and William Bonney, both from the Victoria and Tasmania Assessments team.

Kind Regards,

Ty

#### **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 8:53 AM

To: Tyrie Starrs

Cc: Lucy Butterfield < >; William Bonney <

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

That's great thanks Ty.

If we can lock in that time and I'll endeavour to get you the documentation (including draft referral, the summary information document and suggest agenda) possibly today but tomorrow at the latest.

I'll arrange a br dge line for the call for you and your team to dial into and send you an Outlook calendar inv te for Friday with the bridge line details.

Apart from me on the call there will be Ms Kelly McDonald of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation which is aiming to sell the ste in question.

Kind regards,

John Briggs

Partner

Ashurs

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018

From: Tyrie Starrs Sent: Tuesday, 18 September

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNQLASSIFIED]

How does 2-3PM this Friday work for you? If you could provide some documentation to review beforehand that would be helpful.

Kind Regards,

**Tyrie Starrs** 

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

**Environment Standards Division** Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

From:

Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:24 PM

To: Tyrie Starrs

Ph: 02 6274 1507

>; William Bonney Cc: Lucy Butterfield

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Ty,

Thanks again for your helpful assistance below on my request a couple of weeks ago.

We are now in a better position to be able to complete the summary information document and the pre-referral meeting agenda template and I hope to get both of those to you tomorrow.

Would you and your team have time to discuss the matter with me and a representative from our client by phone at some time on this coming Friday?

Kind regards,

John Briggs Partner

Ashurst

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018 Read more

From: Starrs, Tyrie [mailto] Sent: Thursday, 6 September

To: Briggs, John 67102
Cc: Butterfield, Lucy; Bonney, William
Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNQLASSIFIED]

Hi John

Thank you for your enquiry in regards to potential referral of the sale of land by a Commonwealth agency at Elsternwick, Victoria. As discussed, we are able to organise a pre-referral teleconference between yourself and the Department to discuss this matter.

Pre-referral meetings are designed to improve the Department's understanding of the proposed action and help you understand the Department's processes. The focus of these meetings is how the proposed action will impact matters of national environmental significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). We generally allot 1 hour for such meetings, anytime within the following would best suit us:

Between 1 pm and 4 pm Monday 10 September

Between 10 am and 12 pm Wednesday 12 September.

Please let me know if any of those times suit you. Once we have identified the best time I will set-up and provide details of our teleconference that everyone can dial-in to. In addition, please see some guidance information regarding a pre-referral meeting below:

Summary information to assist with a pre-referral meeting — Guidance for proponents and consultants
 This will provide you with information to help prepare for a pre-referral meeting.

Please note, to ensure we can provide relevant advice at the meeting we ask that you complete the following documents and provide to the Department prior to the meeting.

- Information on proposed action (template)
  - This Word template allows you to provide information on your proposed action. Please complete this table, listing any specific issues or concerns that you would like to address at the meeting.
- Pre-referral meeting agenda template

This pre-referral meeting agenda allows you to tailor the meeting to suit your needs. Please complete the agenda template and add any other items that you would like to discuss.

Once completed please email the Department's Business Entry Point (<a href="mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au">epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au</a>) the information and cc myself, clearly marking the email as 'Pre-referral meeting' and specifying the project name.

Please note that the Department cannot give any assurance on the outcomes of a proposed action until it has been referred formally for assessment and approval under the EPBC Act. Once the formal referral is received and the cost recovery fee is paid, the Minister (or delegate) will consider whether the proposed action is a 'controlled action' requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Looking forward to discussing the project and the referrals process with you. If you have any questions or require any further information and clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Τv

#### Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

E-

From: Starrs, Tyrie

Sent: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 1:25 PM

To:

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi John

I just tried to call you but I guess you might be at lunch! Please feel free to give me a call when you get a chance to discuss your request below.

Kind Regards,

Ту

#### Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph:

# Member enquiry

Subject: Request for Pre-lodgment Meeting

From: John Briggs
CRM: View Contact

Topic area: General Enquiry

Organisation: Ashurst		
Description:		
Good morning.		
I am a lawyer in a firm		

I am a lawyer in a firm acting for a Commonwealth Government agency which is considering sale of a property.

We are currently considering the need for referral and, on balance, are likely to refer but would appreciate a pre-lodgment meeting with the Department in the next few weeks.

Would you be able to put me in touch with someone in the right area please?

Kind regards,

John Briggs

Partner

Ashurst

Submission date: 03/09/2018, 10:47 AM

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Sent: Friday, 21 September 2018 11:26 AM

To: Cc:

Kelly

McDonald; Annalisse Morrow;

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Attachments: 252835051\_5\_Draft EPBC Act Referral - 8 Gordon St 21 Sep18.docx

Importance: High

Ty,

**Attached** for our call at 2:00pm today is the current draft referral we have developed for this matter.

I will walk you through the relevant aspects of it on our call so please don't feel any imperative to digest it beforehand.

Please note it is still a work in progress and may be changed prior to being officially lodged.

Talk soon.

Kind regards,

# **John Briggs**

Partner

## **Ashurst**

D:

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# AUSTRALIAN LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR 2016 Read more

From: Tyrie Starrs [mailto:

Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 9:09 AM

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney; Read, Roxane 67456

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

No worries John, It's locked in. At this end it is likely to be myself and William Bonney, both from the Victoria and Tasmania Assessments team.

Kind Regards,

Ty

## **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

## **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph: 02 6274 1507

E:I

Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 8:53 AM

**To:** Tyrie Starrs < **Cc:** Lucy Butterfield

; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

That's great thanks Ty.

If we can lock in that time and I'll endeavour to get you the documentation (including draft referral, the summary information document and suggest agenda) possibly today but tomorrow at the latest.

I'll arrange a bridge line for the call for you and your team to dial into and send you an Outlook calendar invite for Friday with the bridge line details.

Apart from me on the call there will be Ms Kelly McDonald of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation which is aiming to sell the site in question.

Kind regards,

## **John Briggs**

Partner

# Ashurst

D:

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018 Read more

From: Tyrie Starrs

Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:45 PM

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney

**Subject:** RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi John,

How does 2-3PM this Friday work for you? If you could provide some documentation to review beforehand that would be helpful.

Kind Regards,

Ту

# **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph: 02 6274 1507

Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:24 PM

To: Tyrie Starrs Cc: Lucy Butterfield

; William Bonney

**Subject:** RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Ty,

Thanks again for your helpful assistance below on my request a couple of weeks ago.

We are now in a better position to be able to complete the summary information document and the pre-referral meeting agenda template and I hope to get both of those to you tomorrow.

Would you and your team have time to discuss the matter with me and a representative from our client by phone at some time on this coming Friday?

Kind regards,

# **John Briggs**

Partner

**Ashurst** 

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018 Read more

From: Starrs, Tyrie [mailto:

Sent: Thursday, 6 September 2018 1:00 PM

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Butterfield, Lucy; Bonney, William

**Subject:** RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi John,

Thank you for your enquiry in regards to potential referral of the sale of land by a Commonwealth agency at Elsternwick, Victoria. As discussed, we are able to organise a pre-referral teleconference between yourself and the Department to discuss this matter.

Pre-referral meetings are designed to improve the Department's understanding of the proposed action and help you understand the Department's processes. The focus of these meetings is how the proposed action will impact matters of national environmental significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). We generally allot 1 hour for such meetings, anytime within the following would best suit us:

Between 1 pm and 4 pm Monday 10 September

Between 10 am and 12 pm Wednesday 12 September.

Please let me know if any of those times suit you. Once we have identified the best time I will set-up and provide details of our teleconference that everyone can dial-in to. In addition, please see some guidance information regarding a pre-referral meeting below:

• <u>Summary information to assist with a pre-referral meeting – Guidance for proponents and consultants</u>
This will provide you with information to help prepare for a pre-referral meeting.

Please note, to ensure we can provide relevant advice at the meeting we ask that you complete the following documents and provide to the Department prior to the meeting.

- <u>Information on proposed action (template)</u>
  - This Word template allows you to provide information on your proposed action. Please complete this table, listing any specific issues or concerns that you would like to address at the meeting.
- Pre-referral meeting agenda template

This pre-referral meeting agenda allows you to tailor the meeting to suit your needs. Please complete the agenda template and add any other items that you would like to discuss.

Once completed please email the Department's Business Entry Point (<a href="mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au">epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au</a>) the information and cc myself, clearly marking the email as 'Pre-referral meeting' and specifying the project name.

Please note that the Department cannot give any assurance on the outcomes of a proposed action until it has been referred formally for assessment and approval under the EPBC Act. Once the formal referral is received and the cost recovery fee is paid, the Minister (or delegate) will consider whether the proposed action is a 'controlled action' requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Looking forward to discussing the project and the referrals process with you. If you have any questions or require any further information and clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Ту

# **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

# **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Ph:

E٠

From: Starrs, Tyrie

Sent: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 1:25 PM

To:

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

# Hi John,

I just tried to call you but I guess you might be at lunch! Please feel free to give me a call when you get a chance to discuss your request below.

Kind Regards,

Ty

# **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

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Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Member enquiry
Subject: Request for Pre-lodgment Meeting
From: John Briggs
CRM: View Contact
Topic area: General Enquiry
Organisation: Ashurst
Description:
Good morning.
I am a lawyer in a firm acting for a Commonwealth Government agency which is considering sale of a pro-
We are currently considering the need for referral and, on balance, are likely to refer but would appreciate meeting with the Department in the next few weeks.
Would you be able to put me in touch with someone in the right area please?
Kind regards,
John Briggs
Partner
Ashurst

**Submission date:** 03/09/2018, 10:47 AM

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To: Cc: Subi

Attach

e-reterral meeling - 2:00pm, Friday 31 Ser ednesday, 19 September 2018 6:17:55 PM

252848547 1 Sale of 8 Gordon Street Fistern 252848645 1 Sale of 8 Gordon Street Fistern

Tv.

Now attached as promised are the two Departmental forms we have completed for the 2:00pm Friday pre-lodgment teleconference.

We will email you a draft of the referral form tomorrow.

Bridge line details have been included on page 2 of the information form but I will circulate an Outlook calendar appointment shortly.

Look forward to discussing with you on Fr day afternoon.

Kind regards,

## John Briggs

Partner

# Ashurst

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018

From: Tyrie Starrs [mailto

Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 9:09 AM
To: Briggs, John 67102
Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney; Read, Roxane 67456

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNO\_ASSIFIED]

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Kind Regards,

**Tyrie Starrs** 

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

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Department of the Environment and Energy

GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

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Alg Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

Environment Standards Division Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

From: Starrs, Tyrie

Sent: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 1:25 PM

To:

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Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

Environment Standards Division
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601
Ph.

Member enquiry

Subject: Request for Pre-lodgment Meeting

From: John Briggs
CRM: View Contact

Topic area: General Enquiry

Organisation: Ashurst

Description:

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# PRE-REFERRAL MEETING AGENDA TEMPLATE

**Proponent name: Australian Broadcasting** 

Corporation

Other attendees: John Briggs, Kelly McDonald

Jurisdiction: Victoria

Department officer attending: Tyrie Starrs, William

Bonney

Date: 21 September 2018 Time: 30–90 minutes

Pr	e-referral discussion	Time
•	Referral history – including details of previous or current referrals (if applicable).	2:00pm
•	Discuss project	2:10pm
	<ul> <li>Description of the proposed action and why the sale is being referred.</li> </ul>	
•	Matters of National Environmental Significance	2:35pm
	<ul> <li>Identify MNES likely to be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposed action</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>If available, provide accurate and up-to-date information including surveys, mapping and supporting details on specific MNES.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Department to discuss any suggested additional information required to determine the scale and severity of impacts to MNES as a result of the proposed action.</li> </ul>	
•	Avoid, minimise and mitigate	2:50pm
	<ul> <li>Discuss mitigation and management measures proposed to avoid or minimise impacts to identified MNES.</li> </ul>	
•	Expected timeframes (commencement/completion).	3:00pm
EF		
•	3:10pm	
•	Discuss cost recovery requirements.	3:20pm
•	Detail state/territory bilateral process being undertaken and discuss Commonwealth assessment alignment considerations, if applicable, including Client Service Charter.	3:25pm
Ne	ext steps – email follow-up to capture outcomes of meeting	
•	Department officer to email proponent/consultant outlining the key messages discussed in the meeting including any outstanding issues or suggested	

additional information	that may	be included in	vour formal referral.

# Caveat

The Department cannot give any assurance on a proposed action until it has been referred under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Once the formal referral is received and the cost recovery fee is paid, the Minister (or delegate) will consider whether the proposed action is a 'controlled action' and thus requires assessment and approval under the EPBC Act. Further information may be requested by the Department for the purposes of making that decision, as well as deciding on the appropriate assessment approach for the action.



# Information on proposed action (template)

By providing this information including the issues and questions you would like discussed at the pre-referral meeting will ensure that the Department provides the appropriate resources to your project.

	Details
Project name	Proposed sale of ABC Studios, 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, Vic, 3185
Brief description of the proposal including location (latitude/longitude).  If available, any maps should contain the project boundary.	The Australian Broadcasting Corporation ( <b>ABC</b> ) is proposing to sell a property located at 8 Gordon Street, Elsternwick, Victoria, 3185 (the <b>Property</b> ). (Maps showing the location of the Property are at <b>Attachment A</b> ).
Name of person/company proposing to take the action (Proponent) and contact details	ABC, Kelly McDonald (Head Legal Operations and Projects):
Purpose of the meeting – what key areas would you like to discuss?  A suggested Pre-referral meeting agenda template ( <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments/assessment-and-approval-process">http://www.environment.gov.au/protection/environment-assessments/assessment-and-approval-process</a> ) is available to help as a guide for the pre-referral meeting. Please modify this agenda to suit your requirements.	The purpose of the meeting is for the ABC and Ashurst to explain the background to the transaction, and to discuss a draft referral under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act</i> 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act).

Preferred meeting date/time (morning/afternoon)	Friday, 21 September 2018 – 2:00pm to 3:00pm
Provide a range of dates and times to allow for flexibility. The Department will then arrange a meeting and inform you of the final arrangements.	(Pre-arranged with Ty Starrs)
Meeting attendees  Please indicate who will be attending and their job titles.	John Briggs, Partner, Ashurst Kelly McDonald, Head Legal Operations & Projects, ABC Legal
Meeting requirements	Teleconference
What specific equipment can the Department provide for the meeting e.g. laptop and/or projector, whiteboard etc.	Dial in number:  Conference Code:
Expected timing of submission of the referral documentation.	ABC would like to submit the EPBC Act referral as soon as possible after the teleconference.
This information can assist the Department with its resource planning.	
Expected timeframes for commencement and completion of proposed action (if known).  Note that we cannot fast track approvals to suit projects; rather we are required to follow statutory processes. Where we can provide advice to ensure a streamlined approach we will do so.	21 September 2018 - Invite Expression of Interest to purchase the property  Date to be advised - Minister decides that the sale of the property is not a controlled action  21 December 2018 - Expect the sale to be settled with the prospective purchaser

From: To: Cc: Kelly McDonald epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au RE: Pre-referral meeting - 2:00pm, Friday 21 September 2018 Wednesday, 19 September 2018 6:29:49 PM Date: Attachm Attachment A.PDF

My apologies for omitting from my email below a copy of a map of the site. Now attached

#### John Briggs

Partne

#### Ashurst

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018

From: Briggs, John 67102 Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 6:17 PM

To: Tyrie Starrs

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney; Kelly McDonald; Read, Roxane 67456; epbc.referrals@environment.gov au Subject: Pre-referral meeting - 2:00pm, Friday 21 September 2018

Ty,

Now attached as promised are the two Departmental forms we have completed for the 2:00pm Friday pre-lodgment teleconference.

We will email you a draft of the referral form tomorrow.

Bridge line details have been included on page 2 of the information form but I will circulate an Outlook calendar appointment shortly.

Look forward to discussing with you on Friday afternoon.

Kind regards.

#### John Briggs

Partner

# Ashurst

D:

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018 Read more

From: Tyrie Starrs [mailto Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 9:09 AM

To: Briggs, John 67102

Cc: Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney; Read, Roxane 67456

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

No worries John, It's locked in. At this end it is likely to be myself and William Bonney, both from the Victoria and Tasmania Assessments team.

Kind Regards,

Ту

#### **Tyrie Starrs**

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

**Environment Standards Division** Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

[mailto Sent: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 8:53 AM To: Tyrie Starrs < ; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

That's great thanks Ty.

If we can lock in that time and I'll endeavour to get you the documentat on (including draft referral, the summary informat on document and suggest agenda) possibly today but tomorrow at the latest.

I'll arrange a bridge line for the call for you and your team to dial into and send you an Outlook calendar invite for Fr day with the

br dge line details.

Apart from me on the call there will be Ms Kelly McDonald of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation which is aiming to sell the site in auestion.

Kind regards,

## John Briggs

Partne

#### Ashurst

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADQUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018

From: Tyrie Starrs [mailto

Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:45 PM

**To:** Briggs, John 67102 **Cc:** Lucy Butterfield; William Bonney

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

How does 2-3PM this Friday work for you? If you could provide some documentation to review beforehand that would be helpful.

Kind Regards,

Ty

#### Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

#### **Environment Standards Division**

Department of the Environment and Energy GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:24 PM

To: Tyrie Starrs

; William Bonney Cc: Lucy Butterfield

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Ty,

Thanks again for your helpful assistance below on my request a couple of weeks ago.

We are now in a better position to be able to complete the summary information document and the pre-referral meeting agenda template and I hope to get both of those to you tomorrow.

Would you and your team have time to discuss the matter with me and a representative from our client by phone at some time on this coming Fr day?

Kind regards,

#### **John Briggs**

Partne

#### Ashurst

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MOST INNOVATIVE LAW FIRM (INTERNATIONALLY HEADOUARTERED LAW FIRMS), FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS AWARDS ASIA-PACIFIC 2018

From: Starrs, Tyrie [mailto

Sent: Thursday, 6 September 2018 1:00 PM To: Briggs, John 67102 Cc: Butterfield, Lucy; Bonney, William

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request - EPBC Act Referral [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi John.

Thank you for your enquiry in regards to potential referral of the sale of land by a Commonwealth agency at Elsternwick, Victoria. As discussed, we are able to organise a pre-referral teleconference between yourself and the Department to discuss this matter.

Pre-referral meetings are designed to improve the Department's understanding of the proposed action and help you understand the Department's processes. The focus of these meetings is how the proposed action will impact matters of national environmental significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). We generally allot 1 hour for such meetings, anytime within the

following would best suit us:

Between 1 pm and 4 pm Monday 10 September

Between 10 am and 12 pm Wednesday 12 September.

Please let me know if any of those times suit you. Once we have identified the best time I will set-up and provide details of our teleconference that everyone can dial-in to. In addition, please see some guidance information regarding a pre-referral meeting below:

Summary information to assist with a pre-referral meeting — Guidance for proponents and consultants
 This will provide you with information to help prepare for a pre-referral meeting.

Please note, to ensure we can provide relevant advice at the meeting we ask that you complete the following documents and provide to the Department prior to the meeting.

- Information on proposed action (template)
- This Word template allows you to provide information on your proposed action. Please complete this table, listing any specific issues or concerns that you would like to address at the meeting.
- Pre-referral meeting agenda template

This pre-referral meeting agenda allows you to tailor the meeting to suit your needs. Please complete the agenda template and add any other items that you would like to discuss.

Once completed please email the Department's Business Entry Point (<a href="mailto:epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au">epbc.referrals@environment.gov.au</a>) the information and cc myself, clearly marking the email as 'Pre-referral meeting' and specifying the project name.

Please note that the Department cannot give any assurance on the outcomes of a proposed action until it has been referred formally for assessment and approval under the EPBC Act. Once the formal referral is received and the cost recovery fee is paid, the Minister (or delegate) will consider whether the proposed action is a 'controlled action' requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

Looking forward to discussing the project and the referrals process with you. If you have any questions or require any further information and clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Ty

#### Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

Environment Standards Division
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601
Ph:

From: Starrs, Tyrie

Sent: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 1:25 PM

To:

Subject: RE: Pre-lodgement meeting request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi John,

I just tried to call you but I guess you might be at lunch! Please feel free to give me a call when you get a chance to discuss your request below.

Kind Regards,

Ту

#### Tyrie Starrs

A/g Assistant Director | Victoria & Tasmania Assessments

Environment Standards Division
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601
Ph:

E:

Subject: Request for Pre-lodgment Meeting

From: John Briggs

CRM: View Contact

Topic area: General Enquiry

Organisation: Ashurst

Description:

Good morning.

I am a lawyer in a firm acting for a Commonwealth Government agency which is considering sale of a property.

We are currently considering the need for referral and, on balance, are likely to refer but would appreciate a pre-lodgment meeting with the Department in the next few weeks.

Would you be able to put me in touch with someone in the right area please?

Kind regards,

John Briggs

Partner

Ashurst

Submission date: 03/09/2018, 10:47 AM

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